

# HUNS FOUR TIMES REPULSED EAST OULCHY-LE-CHATEAU AMERICANS HOLD SERENGES RESULT COUNTER-ATTACK

## THIRD REGULARS DEFEATED HUNS

U. S. Division Identified in Action, Crushing Crack Prussian Guards.

## RAINBOW TROOPS NAMED

In Report by Gen March as Participating East Fere-en-Tardenois.

Washington, July 31.—The sole object of the allies and the Germans in the Soissons-Rheims salient now is to kill as many men as possible. Gen. March, chief of staff, said today at his semi-weekly conference with newspaper correspondents. Whatever objective either side had at the beginning, the general said, has been submerged by developments in the severe fighting.

Gen. March pointed out that the salient has been flattened, thus virtually obliterating any hopes of the allies bagging large numbers of the enemy. The German withdrawal since last Saturday, he added, has reduced the length of the line another ten miles to fifty-four miles. The maximum German retreat, in the center, is fourteen miles.

Arrival of the forty-second (Rainbow) division, and its participation in the fighting east of Fere-en-Tardenois, was announced. The third regular division also was identified as in action at Serj and Clerges, where the crack German guard divisions have been defeated in hard fighting by American troops.

New Divisions Formed  
Gen. March announced the formation in the United States of six more divisions, numbered from fifteen to twenty, and to be located at Camp Logan, Texas; Kearney, Cal.; Beauregard, La.; Travis, Texas; Dodge, Iowa; and Sevier, S. C. As in the case of the six divisions announced last week, these will be built around two regular infantry regiments in each case.

Casualties Not Known  
Gen. March had nothing to reveal as to the extent of the casualties sustained by the American forces in the recent fighting. He said, however, that Gen. Pershing had been ordered to cable the casualties as received and that these would be given out here at once. He added that casualties over a long period hereafter.

Abandon Initials  
The chief of staff said that in carrying out the new policy of "one army" the war department intends to drop the letters "U. S." heretofore reserved for the regular or the militia forces of the United States. The sub-designations of "N. G." for national guard, and "A. A." for national army, will be abandoned.

In the same connection, Gen. March announced that the twelve major generals and the thirty-six brigadiers necessary for the new divisions will be selected from all elements of the service.

This statement was taken to mean that both national guard and national army officers hereafter will be eligible for promotion to their respective ranks even in regular army divisions.

In response to a question Gen. March said that where a division commander was selected to be a temporary corps commander the command of his division passes to the senior brigadier.

## FRENCH "EYES" REPORT FIRES BACK HUN LINES

Indications of Further Retirement—Many Brisk but Vain Reactions.

Paris, July 31.—(Havas agency)—French aerial observers say the Matin report that there are signs behind the present German battle front of preparations for a continuation of the retirement northward. The enemy is destroying much material and big fires have been seen. The newspapers generally point out that the fighting Tuesday was marked by brisk but vain enemy reactions. They believe that the German line of resistance has been reached, although the allies were able to make additional gains.

Several military experts do not believe that the Germans have yet reached the end of their retreating movement. The Echo de Paris says the Germans have thrown five reserve divisions into the fighting proving the importance the German command places on maintaining its present position which is equally good for offense or defense.

## WAR DEPARTMENT ORDERS INVESTIGATION PRICES

Spartanburg, S. C., July 31.—Acting under orders from the war department, army officers from Camp Wadsworth are to make an investigation of the charges that soldiers have been discriminated against in the matter of prices in the city of Spartanburg. Col. J. F. Gohn, chief of staff, declares that he does not think there have been many abuses of this kind in Spartanburg, although he has heard of some.

## YANKEE SCHEME CATCHES ENEMY

Entire German Force Enveloped in Town of Serenges by Americans.

## HUN GRADUALLY GIVES WAY

No Concentrated Attack by Either Side, but Hard Fighting in Progress.

(Associated Press.)

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne front, July 31.—(Noon).—Efforts made by the Germans to advance their lines against the Americans on this front last night and this forenoon were fruitless. The Americans for their part, were content to hold their positions along their slightly advanced line for the time. The German line, however, is reported gradually giving way both to the right and left.

There was hard fighting throughout the night, but no concentrated attack in force by either side. Both high explosives and gas shells were sprayed by the Germans over a wide area.

The air forces on both sides were busy this morning. One of the American planes was attacked by eight enemy machines, but escaped and returned to his base.

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne front.—During the night the Americans made a pretense of retreating from a part of the town of Serenges. The Germans advanced into the town, observing the supposed evacuation. Two companies of Americans then closed in and enveloped the German force, killing or capturing every man of it.

## BOCHES POSTPONING RETREAT TO VESLE

Immense Wastage in Manpower Involved by Policy Determined on by Foe.

Paris, July 31.—Strong German reaction Tuesday shows, in the opinion of French military experts, that the enemy is determined to postpone a retreat to the Vesle as long as possible, thereby incurring the wastage in manpower that policy involves.

The Germans yesterday, according to Marcel Hutin in the Echo de Paris, threw in five of their best reserve divisions in a counter attack between Fere-en-Tardenois and Ronchieres without appreciable effect against either the French or the Americans.

The German crown prince has a number of good reasons for holding up his retirement to the Vesle. First, he may desire to prevent the French from using the Soissons-LaFerte-Million railway; second, he may want to keep the main Paris-Nancy railroad, which parallels the Marne, within range of his heavy, and third, he may want to remove his material without too much damage to the Vesle line.

Furthermore, the Germans would be unable to use the Rheims-Soissons road if they retired to the Vesle. Also they would have their backs against the means of communication in the rear.

## NEW YORK PAPERS ALL FORCED TO RAISE PRICES

High Cost of Paper and New Zone Mailing System Responsible.

In accordance with the present demand all daily and Sunday papers published in New York city have again raised their prices. Every daily published there, including such papers as the Tribune, World, Sun, and Herald, is now being sold for six cents, with the exception of the Times, Telegraph, and Wall Street Journal, which are selling for seven cents. All Sunday papers have increased their prices to twelve cents. The new zone mailing system introduced by congress, together with the increased cost of paper is responsible for the advance.

## AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ASSAULT REPULSED

Italians Capture Machine Guns, Flame Throwers and Prisoners in Counter-Attack.

Rome, July 31.—An Austro-Hungarian attack was delivered in force against the Italians in the Corone sector on Monday night, but was repulsed by an Italian counter assault, the war office announced today.

The Italians captured machine guns, flame throwers and some prisoners.

SOLDIER'S WIFE FATALITY  
SHOT BY HER FRIEND

Nashville, July 31.—Mrs. George Hodge, 32, whose husband is a volunteer in the navy, died early this morning in Wayne county, as a result of a pistol wound through the abdomen inflicted yesterday when a pistol in the hands of Miss Hicks, a friend, was accidentally discharged.

## AMERICAN ARTILLERY AT THE FRONT



This is one of the first photographs to arrive in America showing American heavy artillery on the western front. These guns probably are now in action bombarding the Huns in the Rheims-Soissons salient.

## AMERICANS GIVE HUNS COLD STEEL OF HUN OFFICERS PLOTTED DEATH MAY TAKE OVER PINE INDUSTRY

Hand-to-Hand Encounter for Possession of Heights North of Ourcq River.

Boches Are Surprised  
Germans Cleared Out of Village of Serenges-et-Nesle and Hill No. 184.

(International News Service)  
With the American Army at the Aisne, July 30 (10 p. m.).—Americans gave the Germans the cold steel in a series of violent hand to hand encounters for possession of the heights north of the Ourcq river, which raged all day, and were still going on tonight.

The Americans continued to thrust northward despite the fact that the boches had rushed fresh troops into action in motor trucks and laid down a heavy barrage against our advanced elements.

Our progress was not quite so rapid as it had been on Sunday. At daybreak we had cleared the Germans entirely from Serenges-et-Nesle and hill number 184, immediately northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois.

During the night the Americans had penetrated the village from the west, taking the boches completely by surprise. In the meanwhile the Germans were keeping the slopes to the south under heavy machine gun fire, where the Americans had made a demonstration.

After sharp bayonet fighting the Germans were thrown back to the outskirts. The attack which hurled the boches from the village was led by a certain captain from Ohio. A thick nest of German machine gun nests in the small wood known as Bois de Brule (south of Serenges) held up the advance of our right flank. The advance of our right flank. The advance of our right flank. The advance of our right flank.

After forty minutes of violent shell fire the infantry rushed forward. The men found that the machine gun emplacements had been blown to bits. Then other elements to the right of this attack cleared up enemy machine gunners at Meusy farm, immediately to the south, which we had penetrated during the night.

North of Serj where American machine gunners administered such a stiff drubbing to a crack Prussian guard division in Sunday and Monday's fighting, we made further progress. East of this village the Americans stormed and captured hill number 212, commanding the approaches to Serj from the north.

With our machine guns playing steadily across this road, the Germans did not attempt to recapture the village which has been the scene of such a desperate struggle. To the southeast of Serj, the Germans continue to contest every inch of ground, counter-attacking with great violence.

German artillery of heavier calibre has been watching the areas in our rear, indicating that the enemy has concentrated considerable artillery on the plateau northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois in an effort to impede our advance toward the Fismes line.

Despite this fire it was possible, with comparative safety to reach several commanding points south of the Ourcq river from where we observe our advance north of the stream, while the German barrage was dotting our line with shell fire.

From one of these points of vantage observers watched an American lieutenant leading an attack towards Nesle. He cleverly outmaneuvered the boches, who believed that the Americans would climb the slope through their ravine. They laid down their barrage accordingly. Then the lieutenant simply shifted his men to the left of the ravine, thus avoiding the shell torrent. When German air observers had reported this back to the batteries the barrage was moved westward. Thereupon the lieutenant quickly moved his line of advance back to the old position and sent the men rushing up the ravine to the ridge above before the German artillery could learn of the move.

## GERMAN ATTACK PRECEDED BY HEAVY BOMBARDMENT

New Franco-American Positions Are Maintained Intact Against All Blows—Village of Serenges-et-Nesle, After Changing Hands, Finally Held by Allies.

Paris, July 31.—American troops maintain their positions in the region of Serenges-et-Nesle, which they carried after violent fighting, according to an official statement from the war office today.

The Germans made four attacks against the new French positions east of Oulchy-le-Chateau. They were repulsed and the French line was held intact.

The French and the Germans carried out raids at a number of other points in the sectors east and west of the Marne salient, but there was no change in the general situation at these points.

The statement reads: After a heavy bombardment the Germans attacked the new French positions east of Oulchy-le-Chateau. Our troops repulsed four enemy assaults and maintained their lines intact.

On the right bank of the Ourcq there were lively combats northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois. The village of Serenges-et-Nesle, passed from hand to hand but was finally taken by American troops in a counter-attack. A number of raids were made by the Germans near Meusi-St. Georges, west of Montdidier, in the La Prete wood, on the right bank of the Meuse, and in the Vosges. They were without result. Our troops made successful incursions into the German lines northeast of Perthes-les-Hurlus, (in Champagne) and brought back prisoners. The night was quiet on the remainder of the front.

Combats on Ourcq River.  
Paris, July 31.—After a violent bombardment the Germans attacked the new Franco-American positions in the district east of Oulchy-le-Chateau, but were repulsed and the allied lines were maintained intact. The French war office announced today.

On the right bank of the Ourcq river there were lively combats northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois. The village of Serenges-et-Nesle, passed from hand to hand but was finally taken by American troops in a counter-attack.

Numerous German raids, all of which were without result, were attempted near Meusi-St. Georges, east of Montdidier, in the La Prete forest and on the right bank of the Meuse as well as in the Vosges mountains.

The French carried out successful raiding incursions into the enemy lines in the sector northeast of Perthes-les-Hurlus. Some prisoners were captured. American forces are on the line in the sector of Le Preire forest and in the Vosges.

## MAY BE DEFEATED BY POLITICAL TRICKS

Representative Randall Says This Only Means Left to Anti-Prohibitionists.

Washington, July 31.—Prohibitionists were drawing in their lines today to combat the enactment of wartime prohibition at the present session of congress.

"It may be possible to beat prohibition at this session by parliamentary tricks," said Representative Randall, author of the original amendment, "but they can beat it in no other way. The demand of the country for prohibition is too great."

He admitted, however, that the revenue situation would give the wet a potent argument. If the present campaign results in failure the drys still have one card to play. They predicted today that the prohibition amendment to the constitution will have been ratified by thirty-six states, the required number by the middle of January. The amendment provides that prohibition shall not become effective, however, until one year after ratification. The drys will seek to have this limitation cancelled by court action.

The constitution says that an amendment shall become effective when ratified by three-fourths of the states. The drys contend that the year of grace provision is not a part of the amendment, but a limitation placed upon it by congress. Therefore, they say, that part of the amendment is unconstitutional and should be nullified by the supreme court.

The drys will attempt court action, although such a step would seem to endanger the year amendment. They said they could not believe the supreme court would throw out an amendment that had been ratified by thirty-six states and therefore would be willing to take the risk.

## RUSS MASSES AROUSED TO POINT OF UPRISING

London, July 31.—Information reaching Stockholm says the correspondent of the Times there, shows that the bolshevik regime has come to the end of its tether and that the Russian masses—workmen and peasants—are about to rise in arms against bolshevik tyranny. Official representatives of the social revolutionary and social democratic parties in Russia have arrived in Stockholm, says the correspondent and have issued a remarkable appeal to the socialists of Europe. They call upon the socialists to form an international commission, representing all socialist parties, to visit Russia and ascertain by direct investigation whether the Russian socialists are not right in declaring that the bolsheviks have brought widespread evils in Russia, destroyed industry, caused universal starvation, despotically oppressed the people and are now concerned only in retaining power at all cost.

The representatives are Rusanoff, for the social revolutionaries, and Axelrod, for the social democrats. They represented their respective parties in Stockholm in the summer of 1917 when an abortive attempt was made to organize an inter-socialist conference.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.  
New Orleans, July 31.—Prices sagged on the opening of the cotton market today, losing 13 1/2 points under the first call on rains in Texas. Good buying met the decline and a quick reaction followed which lifted the most active months to a level 2 1/2 points over yesterday's close at the end of the first half-hour trading.